

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W
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R 271425Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5922
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
:AMEMBASSY BONN 667
DIA WASHDC
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD
BRUSSELS FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, LY
SUBJECT: QADHAFI SPEECH ON CYPRUS PROMPTS STRONG REACTIONS
FROM GREEK CYPRIOT PRESS

SUMMARY: QADHAFI SPEECH AT RECENTLY CONCLUDED EIGHTH
ISLAMIC CONFERENCE JUSTIFYING TURKISH INTERVENTION AS AN
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ACTION WHICH RESTORED LEGALITY AND PEACE ON CYPRUS STIRS
SHARP REACTION FROM INDEPENDENT AND CONSERVATIVE GREEK CYPRIOT
PRESS, AN EMBARRASSED SILENCE FROM LEFTIST AND PALACE PRESS,
AND CHARGES THAT GOC FAILURE TO CONDEMN PRO-TURKISH STATEMENTS
OF A SUPPOSED "FRIEND" CONSTITUTES AN "INADMISSIBLE DOUBLE-
STANDARD. LYBIAN EMBASSY, STUNG BY CRITICISM, PROTESTS
TO GOC FOREIGN MINISTRY, INTEMPERATELY TERMS CONSERVATIVE

AGHON "FASCIST", AND DRAWS FURTHER
PRESS CRITICISM FOR IMPROPER BEHAVIOR.

1. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNTS HERE, LIBYAN LEADER QADHAFI TOLD ISLAMIC CONFERENCE THAT TURKISH INTERVENTION HAD BEEN IN KEEPING WITH TURKEY'S GUARANTOR RIGHTS, RESTORED TRANQUILITY AND LEGALITY TO THE ISLAND, OVERTURNED FASCISM IN GREECE AND CYPRUS, AND MADE POSSIBLE THE RETURN OF PRESIDENT MAKARIOS. REACTING TO THESE STATEMENTS, INDEPENDENT AND CONSERVATIVE PRESS, IN SERIES OF EDITORIALS MAY 21-25 TERMED QADHAFI'S SPEECH PRO-TURKISH, "OUTRAGEOUS" AND "INADMISSIBLE", DEPLORED DOUBLE STANDARD OF "CERTAIN LEADERS AND NEWSPAPERS" WHO FAILED TO CRITICIZE QADHAFI'S STATEMENTS, AND CALLED ON GOC TO TAKE FIRM STAND.

2. LIBYAN EMBASSY, IN EQUALLY SHARP, DIVERSIONARY COUNTER-ATTACK, PROTESTED PRESS CRITICISM TO GOC FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MAY 23 AND RELEASED STRONGLY WORDED STATEMENT WHICH ACCUSED PRESS CRITICS OF FALSIFYING NEWS ACCOUNTS, TERMED CONSERVATIVE AGHON "FASCIST", AND IMPLIED LATTER SUPPORTED THE 1974 COUP AGAINST MAKARIOS. STATEMENT ALSO REITERATED LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR MAKARIOS, INDEPENDENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF CYPRUS, AND LEGAL EQUALITY FOR ALL CYPRIOTS; NOTED THAT DENKTASH HAD ATTENDED CONFERENCE AT INVITATION OF CONFERENCE SECRETARIAT; AND SAID DENKTASH HAD BEEN RECEIVED AS "VICE PRESIDENT OF CYPRUS" AND HAD USED CYPRUS FLAG THROUGHOUT HIS OFFICIAL VISIT.

3. LIBYAN RESPONSE PROMPTED FURTHER CRITICISM. AGHON
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COUNTERED MAY 24 THAT LIBYAN EMBASSY ACCUSATION WAS "INDECENT." INDEPENDENT SIMERINI DENOUNCED IT AS "A LIBELOUS TEST" AND A "DIPLOMATIC SCANDAL." CYPRUS JOURNALISTS UNION ALSO JOINED FRAY, CRITICIZING LIBYAN EMBASSY FOR "IMPROPER BEHAVIOR," INNUENDOS, AND "INADMISSIBLE CHARACTERIZATIONS." GOC THROUGH ITS SPOKESMAN UNCOMFORTABLY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT IT WAS STUDYING LIBYAN PROTEST AND WOULD TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION, AND SEMI-OFFICIAL PHILELEFTHEROS IN SHORT, BLAND, BELATED EDITORIAL MAY 25 NOTED THAT LIBYAN EMBASSY STATEMENT "WAS NOT IN KEEPING WITH DIPLOMATIC PRACTICES."
CRAWFORD

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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